## NEWS RELEASE

MS Dept. of Marine Resources 1141 Bayview Ave., Biloxi 39530



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Two oyster areas reopening Monday, May 9

BILOXI, Miss. - Officials with the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources announced Friday that two areas will reopen to the harvest of oysters at legal sunrise Monday, May 9.

These conditionally approved areas are:

**Area II "E"** – This area includes Square Handkerchief Reef and southern portions of Henderson Point Reef.

Area II "F" - This area includes southern portions of the Pass Christian Reef.

All other current rules and regulations remain in effect. During the period of May 1 through September 30 of each year, it shall be unlawful for any boats or vessels harvesting or transporting shellstock, to fail to provide protection from direct exposure to the sun by having a suspended awning or similar covering above the shellstock when it is onboard boat or vessel.

Additional updates have been made in accordance with the *Vibrio vulnificus* Control Plan. This updated information is available at oyster check stations or by calling the Oyster Hotline at 228-374-5167 or 1-800-385-5902.

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources is dedicated to enhancing, protecting and conserving marine interests of the state by managing all marine life, public trust wetlands, adjacent uplands and waterfront areas to provide for the optimal commercial, recreational, educational and economic uses of these resources consistent with environmental concerns and social changes. Visit the DMR online at dmr.ms.gov.